

# Order of the day for Special NYAC Session

## March 16, 2019

*Adapted from CLOSING WORSHIP: GOD IS ABLE liturgy: General Conference Worship Team, and Do Not Be Afraid Liturgy- Rev. Dr. Nora Colmenares service on Tuesday, February 26, 2019.*

### Call to Worship

I am afraid that our work is not finished.

**But God is able**

I am afraid this journey is not over

**But God is able**

I am afraid that I may not be able to do this

**But God is able**

And because God is able

**I am not afraid**

### Opening Hymn

*“Creator of the Intertwined”* Jacque Jones,

Music: KINGSFOLD. [OneLicense](#)

1. Creator of the intertwined, you made us all unique:  
each one with ears to hear faith’s call  
each one with voice to speak.  
Each worship’s where the call is heard:  
in forest, temple, dome,  
on mountaintop, in upper room;  
each one must find a home.

2. The song of peace is sung by all;  
strength grows from unity.  
In harmony we celebrate  
your gift: diversity.  
Can we not sing each other’s song,  
speak unfamiliar prayer,  
rejoicing in the riches found  
in differences we share?

3. Teach us to cherish what is yours  
and so the richer be,  
to listen with our hearts, and speak  
with loving honesty.  
From different sources comfort comes;  
each seeks for the divine.  
Your voice speaks many languages;

just one of them is mine.

### **Prayer for Illumination**

O God, for generations your people have come to a place where we cannot clearly see the future, and You have shown us the way. You have sent your prophets, you have provided dreams, you have opened doors that seemed shut and given opportunities to those who are lost. In the fullness of time you sent us Jesus and in his name, we pray.

**Open our eyes God: to your Word and Wisdom, help us to hear you, help us to feel your never-ending presence and know in our heart that you are God and we are your people. May your scriptures remind us this day and always that God, you are able.**

### **Psalm Reading**

Psalm 121, Assurance of God's Protection

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
from where will my help come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.
  
- 3 The Lord will not let your foot be moved;  
God who keeps you will not slumber.
- 4 The Lord who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.
  
- 5 The Lord is your keeper;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
- 6 The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.
  
- 7 The Lord will keep you from all evil;  
The Lord will keep your life.
- 8 God will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.

### **Scripture Reading**

*1 Corinthians 12:13-31*

**13** For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

**14** Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. **15** If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. **16** And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. **17** If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? **18** But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. **19** If all were a single member, where would the body be? **20**



For your church universal, for all those who have walked this path before us; for those whose love for the church has resulted in multiple sacrifices:

**loving God, we thank you.**

For those harmed by the church, for those who are today suffering from the actions or inactions of the church; for those here today who are struggling with the decisions of the Special Session of General Conference:

**loving God, give them your peace and heal their wounds.**

For the times we have denied the blessedness, refused to celebrate the strengths, ignored the pain and failed to hear the voices and see the faces of our LGBTQI siblings:

**loving God, give us courage to face our fears and repent, so we may journey together.**

For all whom we do not see, the ones at the margins, the ones without voice:

**loving God, give them grace, and help us to see them with your eyes and hear them with your heart.**

For those who are here that think differently than us, and who challenge us to see other possibilities:

**loving God, grant us your blessings and the ability to listen to one another.**

For those of us who are tired and cannot see the possibilities you have laid down for us; for those of us that feel hopeless, helpless, and defeated:

**loving God, we ask for strength.**

For the times we do not listen to the promptings of the Spirit and keep our hearts closed:

**loving God, shake us up!**

For the times we choose not to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in all its form in the world and within the body of Christ.

**loving God, we ask for forgiveness.**

For the times we forget that this is your church and that you are in control:

**loving God, remind us you are able.**

For those who are broken or hurting in body, mind, or spirit, especially those whom we name now, we lift our prayers:

*(Call out the name/s or pray in silence)*

**loving God, we ask for healing.**

We lift these prayers and all the prayers of our hearts as we pray together:

**Eternal Spirit,**

**Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,**

**Source of all that is and that shall be,**

**Father and Mother of us all,**

**Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!**  
**The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!**  
**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!**  
**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom**  
**sustain our hope and come on earth.**  
**With the bread we need for today, feed us.**  
**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.**  
**In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.**  
**From trials too great to endure, spare us.**  
**From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**  
**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,**  
**now and forever. Amen.**

*A version of The Lord's Prayer from The New Zealand Prayer Book*

### **Transitional Song to Communion**

***"Let Us Break Bread Together", UMH #618***

Let us break bread together on our knees,  
 let us break bread together on our knees.  
 When I fall on my knees  
 with my face to the rising sun,  
 O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees,  
 let us drink wine together on our knees.  
 When I fall on my knees  
 with my face to the rising sun,  
 O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees  
 let us praise God together on our knees.  
 When I fall on my knees  
 with my face to the rising sun,  
 O Lord, have mercy on me.

### **Communion Liturgy**

Adapted from the *Book of Worship* by Rev. Kerry Greenhill © 2007  
 and revised by Rev. Heather Sinclair -2019

### **Invitation**

At this table, all are welcome.  
 The invisible shall be made visible and those on the margins given places of honor.  
 Christ calls us forward to share in the mystery:  
 that in pouring out our very selves we shall find life abundant and eternal.

Yet when we accept the invitation we know we shall be changed.  
And so we confess our need and our desire for that holy transformation.

**Confession and Pardon** (*Unison*)

**Merciful God,**

**we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart,  
and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We have failed to see your image in our sisters and brothers,  
calling some “friends” and others “enemies,”  
making distinctions between rich and poor,  
men and women, LGBTQI and straight,  
black and white, liberal and conservative.**

**We have closed our eyes to those in need,  
and have believed those who tell us  
there are two kinds of people in the world:  
“us” and “them.”**

**Forgive us, we pray.**

**Open our eyes, correct our vision,  
and help us to see this world you love  
in all its glorious diversity and wonder.**

**May the invisible become visible  
for us and in us and through us  
as Christ leads us ever closer to you. Amen.**

*Silent prayer of confession*

Hear the good news:

Christ lived, and died, and lives forever that we might know the depth of God’s love for us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

*People:* **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

*All:* **Glory to God. Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator!

**With joy we give our thanks and praise!**

Before anything was created, you were God.

You spoke into the darkness and called forth light from darkness; by your Word you called order and beauty out of chaos.

You created us out of ordinary dust, claimed us as beloved children made in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

You delivered us from captivity and made visible a path through the waters, making a way where there was no way, sending nourishment where none could be seen, and leading us through wilderness, so we could un-learn the ways of injustice and oppression.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

When we have needed reminders of your love, your grace, your truth, your desire for justice, you have sent signs and wonders, judges and prophets, people who have spoken your Word, who have proclaimed your vision for creation, who have taught us again and again to see with your eyes.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join the unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy God, our life, our mercy, our strength, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Praise and glory to our God, who saves us! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus, who revealed to us your face, your nature, your love. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when your kin'dom was emerging within us, among us, and through us.

He saw those who had been outcast and invited them to the feast; he healed those who had been kept outside the circle and lifted up the humble and lowly.

He ate with all and taught us to see in each person the image of God, the Belovedness of Christ, and the movement of the Holy Spirit.

On the night before Jesus died, he shared a meal with his friends.

And taking the bread, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,

**“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Even when we are broken, God blesses us with nourishment and new life. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to his disciples, and said:

**“Drink from this, all of you: as the covenants of old were sealed with blood, so my life’s energy and love have been poured out as a sign of a new covenant of forgiveness and healing available to all. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”**

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering of love, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and the cup. Make them be for us the body and love of Christ, visible signs of your invisible grace, a sacred mystery

that we carry with us that unites us with you, with Christ, and with each other as we pour ourselves out in love to proclaim your Good News throughout the world. Through your Beloved Child Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, all-loving God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **Transitional Song**

#### **“Take My Life” S. Underwood**

Holiness, Holiness is what I long for.  
Holiness Is what I need.  
Holiness, Holiness is what you want from me

Faithfulness, faithfulness, is what I long for.  
Faithfulness is what I need.  
Faithfulness, faithfulness is what you want from me

Righteousness, Righteousness Is what I long for  
Righteousness, Is what I need  
Righteousness, Righteousness That's what you want  
That's what you want

So take my take my heart; conform it.  
Take my mind; transform it.  
Take my will; conform it  
to Yours, to Yours oh Lord.

Brokenness, Brokenness is what I long for  
Brokenness, is what I need  
Brokenness, Brokenness That's what you want For me

### **Closing Time of Prayer & Healing**

*We have reached the end of our day together and there are still many things we don't know. There are many fears, many doubts, many hurts. In times of pain and uncertainty, we are invited to hear the Word of God. Words that offer hope. Words that begin to open our hearts to healing. Words that remind us that God is with us in our fears and doubts. And God grants us peace that passes all understanding.*

*Let us remind one another God's assurance in Scripture*

Reader: Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith? (Mark 4:40)

**ALL: The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.** (Hebrews 13:6)

Reader: Do not be afraid when the winds and the sea of life batter all around you (Mt 14:27)

**ALL: The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.** (Hebrews 13:6)

Reader: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. (John 14)

**ALL: The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.** (Hebrews 13:6)

Reader: Though we stumble, we shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds us by the hand.  
(Psalm 37:24)

**ALL: Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God**  
(Psalm 31:5)

**Assurance of God's Presence**

*adapted from words of John Wesley*

Holy One, though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not forge a new road for the journey we share? May we not seek a new dawn and a new dream, a new hope based on a strong faith that you are able to do what we cannot do alone? Though we are not of one opinion, may we not be of one heart?

Let us greet the person next to us by saying:

**\*The light in me acknowledges/sees the light in you**

Will you join me in prayer?

**The church is not ours but Yours, O God.**

**Use it however You desire, ranks it however You inspire.**

**Activate it, allow it to struggle.**

**Use it to demonstrate Your glory,**

**or let it be diminished so that You alone are praised,**

**Lift it up or bring it low,**

**whichever is more useful to Your mission of salvation.**

**Let the church be full, let it be empty.**

**Let it have it all, let it have nothing.**

**We freely and heartily yield the church to You**

**To enjoy what is Yours or to change what is Yours.**

**Open Your church to the fresh breezes of Your Spirit**

**Baptize Your church afresh with the rushing waters of Your Spirit**

**Renew, Revive, Renovate, Revitalize Your church,**

**Blessed God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.**

**Blessing over the Oil**

Let us pray.

O God, the giver of health and salvation,

we give thanks to you for the gift of oil.

As your holy apostles anointed many who were sick and healed them,

so pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on this gift,

that those who in faith and repentance received this anointing may be made whole;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn**“God of Grace” (New Tune)**

God of grace and God of glory,  
 on your people pour your power;  
 crown your ancient church's story,  
 bring its bud to glorious flower.  
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
 for the facing of this hour,  
 for the facing of this hour.

Hallelujah God is with us,  
 Hallelujah we are not alone  
 With God's Spirit we are strong and courageous  
 God of grace and glory we are Yours

**Bishop Benediction**

I pray that out of God's glorious riches you may be strengthened with power through the Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. *Ephesians 3:16-21*